

# The Habit of Thanksgiving

It's first thing Monday morning, and I am sitting at my desk ready to write an article on Thanksgiving. I turn on my computer and...it won't start Windows. Great. 2 hours later, I decide to switch to another computer so I can get this written. Nothing like a computer to test your "attitude of gratitude".

Maybe it's more appropriate to say that this is an article about worry. For a follower of Christ, we are told not to

worry, but it's not something that comes naturally. When circumstances start to press in on us, our human mind begins to fall back into the old habit of thinking it over, trying to find a solution, and allowing anxious thoughts to take over. Is it really possible not to worry?

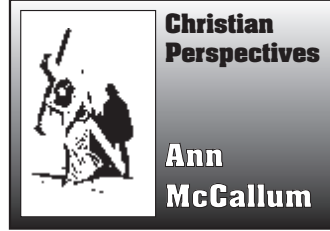
Philippians 4:6 tells us "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to

God". Prayer is the antidote to worry. We are to present our requests to God and leave them with Him. I believe that our prayers and petitions are made with thanksgiving, we will find ourselves worrying less and fulfilling God's command

to rejoice in all things will be easier.

Thanksgiving takes practice if your natural tendency is to worry and try to figure your way out of a situation. What a better time to start practicing than on Thanksgiving weekend? I would like Thanksgiving to become a habit, and like anything, it requires diligent effort and attention for 21 days for a habit to form. Brainstorm some ideas to get started, and to practice over the next few weeks.

If you're serious, you could even write a contract out for yourself, committing yourself to 21 days of practicing Thankfulness. Here's some ideas I came up with: at your Thanksgiving dinner, begin a new family habit of reciting things you are



leged status and above-market wages. After new specialty wine stores opened in Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union (SGEU) launched a media blitz.

The union claimed that private liquor stores lead to more crime, increased consumption, "social harms," expensive products, and less government revenue. These advertisements were provocative but most if not all of the SGEU claims were exaggerated, misleading, or incorrect.

For instance, alcohol sold at private outlets is not more expensive. Following its retail privatization in 1993, Alberta's prices have generally been less expensive than other provinces. As with any other product, increased competition creates incentives for businesses to meet consumer demand. However, the price of alcohol is heavily dependent upon government markups and taxes, which operate independently of whether retail and distribution is monopolized or

pen to competition. Likewise, retail monopolies do not create more government revenue than private retailers. Of the four western provinces along with Ontario and Quebec, Alberta is tied for the highest in terms of dollars raised from alcohol per capita, head of those with retail and distribution monopolies.

Another myth promulgated by government unions is that there is a relationship between safe communities and public liquor stores. Wrong. Contrary to SGEU advertisements, a government monopoly has not made Saskatchewan safer. Instead, Saskatchewan has had the highest rate of impaired driving of any province every year since 1993. By contrast, in the decade following privatization, Alberta's impaired driving rate declined by a higher percentage than any other province - 73%. That compares to a 47% decline for Saskatchewan and an average 50% for Canada. In addition, citizens of Saskatchewan report higher rates of alcohol-related harm than nearly all other provinces,

Thanksgiving day hike with my kids and use this as a Gratitude-review. You may connect with God in other ways: through art, poetry, architecture, sensory prayer, or many other things. Whatever it is, find ways to plug this into your schedule and use it to practice being thankful. God has blessed you with so many good gifts, and He loves to hear us praise Him for His goodness.

I want this Thanksgiving to be a new start for me, and for my

family, in creating a new Attitude of Gratitude that I hope will last a lifetime. If you are truly thankful, worry will have trouble sticking to you.

You cannot be engaged in worry and be thankful at the same time - try it! I hope that you will find a change in heart and that "peace that passes understanding" that comes from letting God take care of our worries and cares.

Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to you and yours.

## Time to reform provinces' alcohol policy

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including Alberta. Also, although retail privatization led to more stores and more product selection in Alberta, it initially correlated with a decrease, rather than an increase, in sales and consumption. Consumption levels depend heavily on historical and demographic factors - not whether the retailer is public or private. Most of this should be self-evident. A unionized employee at a government store cannot stop the average university student from drinking irresponsibly any more than a private-sector employee.

Thus, Saskatchewan's government monopoly on the retail and distribution of alcohol cannot be justified in terms of economic efficiency or social harms.

This reality should lead to some sensible "post-Prohibition" reforms. First, since government monopolies don't prevent harm, provincial governments should recognize their role in regulating alcohol-related harm - and that has nothing to do with wholesaling or retailing. Countless European countries recognized this fact decades ago.

Second, provinces should open up their retail and distribution monopolies to competition. This would allow the economy's best practitioners in supply chain management and retail to enter the business and serve customer demand.

Finally, if government insists on selling alcohol, they should introduce a taxation regime that treats public and private organizations alike, as opposed to the current wholesale monopoly practice in provinces like Saskatchewan which forces private retailers to purchase alcohol from the government at the same price as consumers.

If Canada's provinces want to get past Prohibition and develop evidence-based alcohol policy, these reforms would be a useful start.

David Snow is a researcher with the Frontier Centre for Public Policy and author of Ending Saskatchewan's Prohibition-Era Approach to Liquor Stores, available at www.fcpp.org

Dave Snow  
Researcher  
Frontier Centre for Public Policy

## Royal Canadian Legion News

By TINA MORRELL  
Branch 233, Orangeville

Our Branch attended the District Convention at Penatanguishene this past weekend and we are very proud to learn that our own Marilyn Murray came first overall in the Province for her Scrapbook. She also finished in third place in the Bulletin Competition.

Come out and join us every Thursday from 7pm

to 11:30 pm for a Jam session. Public welcome, bring an instrument or come sing along

On Friday Oct 9th we will be having a Ham and Scallop potato dinner at the cost of \$6.00 all welcome

On Saturday Oct 10 come out and join us for Karaoke from 9pm to 1am with host Johnny Green members and guest welcome.

Sunday Oct 11th join

us for Euchre at the Legion starting at 1:00pm (doors open at noon) cost \$10.00. Open to the public. All money given back in prizes

Friday October 23 - The Neil Diamond Tribute Show Featuring: Joey Purpura, doors open at 7pm with the show starting at 8pm, tickets are \$20 in advance \$25 at the door and can be picked up in legion club room.

Lest We Forget

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# DUFFERIN AREA Church Directory

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Just east of Orangeville

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9 a.m. Church Lite: All Ages Holy Communion  
10 a.m. Open House, Sunday School and  
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11 a.m. Anglican Classic Choral Eucharist

### ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

312 Owen Sound St., Shelburne 925-2923  
Pastor: Rev. Susan D. Wilson  
Sunday, October 11 - 10:30 a.m.

### COVENANT ALLIANCE CHURCH

www.TheHeartofOrangeville.com  
Worshipping every Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.  
3 Zina St., on the corner of First and Zina!  
519-941-2707

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11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
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### ROMAN CATHOLIC ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH

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Pastoral Assistant: Mary Chiasson  
Youth Minister: John MacMullen  
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Sunday 9 & 11 a.m. with Children's Liturgy  
LIFETEEN Mass First, Third & Fifth Sundays of the month  
Reconciliation: Sat. 4:15-4:45  
Weekday Masses: Tues., Wed., 7 p.m., Thurs., Fri., 9 a.m.

### DUFFERIN COUNTY CHRISTADELPHIANS

10th Line Amaranth  
Contact: Chris (925-2236)  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
\* Sunday 6:00 p.m. Bible Talk  
\* Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Bible Study  
\* Friday 7:45 p.m. Youth Group  
\* Please call to verify location!  
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Pastor: Rev. Carol McLean 942-2338  
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Worship Service  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
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### TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

11 am Service with Rev. Edward Bellsmith  
Nursery, Sunday School & Teen Group  
Music, Social events & Outreach  
200 Owen Sound St., Shelburne 925-2233  
www.wonderdale.ca/churches/trinity-united-church  
trinityunitedchurch@bellnet.ca

### Community of Christ

Grand Valley Branch - Mill Street, Grand Valley  
Pastor: Elder Del Franks  
Church phone: 928-3020 Pastor's phone: 940-8660  
9:45 a.m. - Adult and Children's Church School  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Shelburne (Reddickville) Branch - Pastor: Bill Arnold 519-925-2796

### GRACE CHURCH of the Nazarene

at The Ministry Centre  
736 Steeles Street, Unit 3, Shelburne  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship and ACTS for Children  
Pastor: Rev. Bob McLellan - 519-925-0560  
Website: [www.ShelburneGrace.com](http://www.ShelburneGrace.com)  
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### BROADWAY TABERNACLE

Lead Pastor: Paul Carroll  
Sunday Services 10:00 a.m. Young Adults Program 7:11 pm  
Programs for all ages  
Broadway welcomes you!  
Located: 1/4 kilometre West of C-Line, Orangeville  
519-941-3981 www.broadwaytab.com

### ORANGEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
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For info about programs for children, students, and adults, visit [www.orangevillebaptist.com](http://www.orangevillebaptist.com) or call 519.941.4790.

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### HOCKLEY VALLEY BIBLE CHAPEL

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Hockley Road (between 2nd & 3rd Line, Mono)  
Office 942-8200 Pastor Mark Condon

### CELEBRATE OUR LOVE FOR GOD

## DUFFERIN COUNTY & DISTRICT SERVICE DIRECTORY

### W.H. Stuart & Associates

Terry Sullivan, CFP  
Trevor Pugh, BSc (Eng)  
519-941-4813 www.whstuart.com

### F W JOHNSON

Chartered Accountant  
245 BROADWAY, ORANGEVILLE, ONTARIO L9W 1K6  
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Email: [fjohnson@fwjohnson.com](mailto:fjohnson@fwjohnson.com)

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